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Newsletter

27/11/2024

This LPC newsletter is for community pharmacy contractors, managers and team members in Surrey and Sussex.

It contains local information and local news items, local diary dates and other local topics to help effectively manage NHS and locally commissioned contracts.

Visit our Newsletter page for an archive of previous issues. Sign up to CPE to receive nationally significant news and guidance on national contracts.

Quick Glance

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LPC News



Central flu procurement and supply – call for provider engagement

The [NHS England Vaccination Strategy](#) set an ambition to improve the efficiency and responsiveness of vaccine supply. As part of this, the aim is to explore the potential costs and benefits of centralising the procurement and supply of adult flu vaccine.

NHS England want to hear from providers of the adult flu vaccination service about the current procurement model and how this supports delivery of the flu programme. Providers are invited to complete a [questionnaire](#) which takes 15-20 minutes and is anonymous. The deadline for completion is Tuesday **17 December 2024**.



Independent Chair role required for the Sussex Primary Care Provider Collaborative

Sussex Primary Care Provider Collaborative brings providers of General Practice

and Community Pharmacy across Sussex together with a vision of creating a sustainable and thriving primary care system in Sussex which aligns with the NHS Sussex “Improving Lives Together” mission. As primary care is not one but hundreds of independent organisations we need to work together effectively to achieve this vision, the PCPC Board provides a way of doing that and it is key that we have independent support and oversight in this. Therefore the Board are looking for an independent Chair who has experience of working at Board level within the NHS and understands the value, quality and agility that Primary Care brings.

They estimate that the role would require a minimum of a day per month, remunerated at a rate of £75 per hour. There is likely to be some need to travel to face to face meetings in Sussex.

For full job description click [here](#).

Please send expressions of interest to Adnan.abbas2@nhs.net, these can be in the form of a CV and covering letter / statement. The board are open to EOIs until Friday **13th December** and would look to interview for the role early in the new year.

If you would like to have an informal conversation about the post with either Katherine Saunders, Interim Managing Director or any of the Board please just let know Adnan know and we will endeavour to arrange.

Note CPSS sits on the board so can also be contacted at lpc@communitypharmacys.co.uk.

Services



Pharmacy First Patient Survey

Community Pharmacy England and Healthwatch England have launched an online Pharmacy First patient survey that pharmacy owners can direct patients to after receiving the service.

The aim of this collaboration is to collect patient feedback on the service to help inform service improvements and to help to quantify the value of the service to the public.

Pharmacy teams providing Pharmacy First are asked to help promote the survey using the resources we have developed. To encourage as many responses as possible, the survey has been designed to be quick and easy to complete; during testing, most patients took around two minutes to complete it.

Why should we ask patients to complete the survey?

Use of the survey is optional, but we encourage pharmacy owners and their teams to consider offering it to patients for several reasons, including:

- Helping to gather important data on patients' experience of using the service;
- Feeding into the national evaluation of the Pharmacy First service, and the results will be shared with the Department of Health and Social Care and NHS England;
- Supporting Community Pharmacy England and Healthwatch England's national work, and local data can be shared with local Healthwatch organisations and Local Pharmaceutical Committees (LPCs) to inform their discussions on the service at a local level; and
- Reinforcing Community Pharmacy England's communications and public affairs work to demonstrate the value of the Pharmacy First service.

The survey will remain open until at least the end of 2025.

Further details and links to posters and flyers to promote the survey can be found [here](#).

Consultation on the draft Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) for Surrey 2025

Surrey Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment

Surrey Health and Wellbeing Board has produced the first draft of its 2025 Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) report. The aim of the Surrey PNA is to describe the current and future need for pharmaceutical services in Surrey. It achieves this by providing an overview of pharmacy services in Surrey (what is provided and where) and makes an assessment around whether what is currently in place meets the needs of residents, both now and in the future.

The consultation and link to the draft PNA can be found here: [Consultation on the draft Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment \(PNA\) for Surrey 2025 - Surrey County Council - Citizen Space](#)

Your comments are valuable and highly appreciated. The consultation is now open and will close on **Friday 24th January 2025 at 11:59pm**.

Newsletters

To read the latest edition of the NHSE Primary Care Bulletin click [here](#).



Additionally you may be interested in.....



Reminder emergency supply requested by member of the public

We have been asked us to remind pharmacists of the **5 days supply rules for schedule 4 and 5 medications**. Note this includes **co-codamol 30/500mg tablets**.

Pharmacists are sometimes called upon by members of the public to make an emergency supply of medicines. The Human Medicines Regulations 2012 allows exemptions from the Prescription Only requirements for emergency supply to be made by a person lawfully conducting a retail pharmacy business provided:

- that the pharmacist has interviewed the person requesting the prescription-only medicine and is satisfied;
- that there is immediate need for the prescription-only medicine and that it is impracticable in the circumstances to obtain a prescription without undue delay;
- that treatment with the prescription-only medicine has on a previous occasion been prescribed for the person requesting it;
- as to the dose that it would be appropriate for the person to take;
- that no greater quantity shall be supplied than will provide 5 days' treatment of phenobarbital, phenobarbital sodium, or Controlled Drugs in Schedules 4 or 5 (doctors, dentists, or nurse prescribers from the European Economic Area and Switzerland, or their patients, cannot request an emergency supply of Controlled Drugs in Schedules 1, 2, or 3, or drugs that do not have a UK marketing authorisation) or 30 days' treatment for other prescription-only medicines, except

when the prescription-only medicine is:

- insulin, an ointment or cream, or a preparation for the relief of asthma in an aerosol dispenser when the smallest pack can be supplied;
 - an oral contraceptive when a full cycle may be supplied;
 - an antibiotic in liquid form for oral administration when the smallest quantity that will provide a full course of treatment can be supplied;
-



CPPE contact and visits

CPPE will be actively phoning / dropping in to all community pharmacies in Kent, Surrey and Sussex over the coming weeks so please give some thought to any questions you may have for them!

The CPPE team have dedicated some time to reaching out to their colleagues in all sectors, but specifically community pharmacy just now as they have two NHS funded programmes on offer which are of specific interest to community pharmacy teams.

The programmes on offer are:

[Newly Qualified Pharmacist programme](#)

Don't miss out on the opportunity of learning and support with the CPPE Newly Qualified Pharmacists Programme. The programme is open to all pharmacists that have qualified from 2022 who are not already on a work arranged programme (Hospital or Boots) Find out more and apply at [Newly qualified pharmacist programme : CPPE](#).

[Community Pharmacy Technician Advancing Your Role.](#)

Community pharmacy is changing and the Community Pharmacy Technician Advancing Your Role programme has been designed to support pharmacy technicians with learning to develop your role and embracing changes with confidence. This four-month programme is also open to pharmacy technicians working in the health and justice sector. Find out more and apply at [Community pharmacy technician: advancing your role : CPPE](#).

Full details of the latest learning opportunities can be found [here](#).



Prescriptions for promazine

There has recently been an issue of the prescribing of promazine when promethazine was actually required. Be vigilant when receiving prescriptions for promazine and check where appropriate.

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